FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

MBL, Woods Hole
Aug 20, 1951

[until Sept 1]

Dear Joan & Esther—

Thanks a lot for the wonderful picture — much the most colorful I've ever "taken" — Also it looks a lot more relaxed than I feel this summer. I think California was better for me than this crowded nest of holidaying humans. Actually, I like the Cape's climate & atmosphere very much, & have managed to do a fair amount of writing this summer, along with a daily swim.

I'm sorry Werner's mutants didn't come off. I'm still very much interested in looking into the autonomy of allele action, and hope to stand on it this fall. The stability of yeast tempts me to start with this organism, but if it doesn't work out I'd like to take up your invitation to try the heterozygous E. coli. Meanwhile it occurred to me that there's one simple expt you might care to try (if you haven't tried it): The mode of action of streptomycin is surely very different from the purely 'static' action of the known metabolite analogues, such as sulfonamides; their mechanisms of resistance might also be quite different. Since one would expect, if the inference concerning

quad. a ized enzyme is correct, their resistance would be [illegible], & since you've found it to be recessive with sulfanilamide, how would you like to find (if you haven't already done so) whether sulfonamide resistance is dominant?

In the course of writing up some papers on aromatic synthesis, I remembered that your volume of reprinted papers will include the now out-moded diagram of arom. synth. in the Exper. paper. You may recall that we originally interpreted the quad., triple, & double aux. types as being blocked at successively later reactions, & now know they are simply increasingly incompletely blocked in the same group of reactions. Might it not be advisable, if not too late, for the editor to insert a footnote correcting this error? The ~~[illegible]~~ 1951 model (which I'm really convinced will stand) has ~~just~~ recently been submitted to J. Bact., but I haven't yet heard from them.

Hope you're having a good summer, & lots of fun with the filtrable factor. Thanks again for the lovely picture,

Best,

Bernie.

PS: As E. coli W & K-12 have shown one striking difference in aromatic accumulation, I may try further strains, & wish to record the parentage of the strains now being reported. Could you send me a name for the S. typhimurium whose offspring Norton sent me? Thanks.